



**MENOMINEE INDIAN TRIBE OF WISCONSIN
CHAIRMAN'S OFFICE**

P.O. Box 910
Keshena, WI 54135-0910

June 10, 2010

VIA FACSIMILE & ELECTRONIC MAIL

Senator Herb Kohl
330 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Re: Evidence of Bad Faith by the Department of the Interior

Dear Senator Kohl:

It has recently come to the Menominee Indian Tribe's attention that the Department of Interior has acted improperly in relation to its processing of the Tribe's application to have land in Kenosha, Wisconsin taken into trust for gaming purposes. The inappropriate acts include providing privileged and confidential documents to opponents of the Tribe's application and making political decisions directly contrary to the analysis of career professionals. Please see the attached story from the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel* which discusses these improprieties in more detail.

It appears clear to the Tribe that the Bush Administration had no intention of ever treating the Menominee application fairly and was determined to reject it regardless of the facts or law. We believe it is imperative that the Obama Administration not blindly follow and ratify the misdeeds of the prior Administration, and we are calling on Secretary of Interior Salazar to withdraw the obviously flawed rejection of the Menominee application and direct the Inspector General's Office to investigate potential misconduct of Interior officials regarding the processing of the Tribe's application. A copy of the letter to Secretary Salazar is attached.

We need you to support the Tribe and join us in our request that Secretary Salazar take action to correct the misdeeds of the past Administration and make sure that he gives the Menominee application the fair review it has thus far failed to receive. We need you to do this not only so the Menominee Tribe can provide its over 8700 members adequate health care, jobs, education, safety, housing and the one opportunity to substantially improve the standard of living in the poorest County in the State of Wisconsin, but also to ensure that Wisconsin receives the benefits of the 3000 permanent jobs, and over 1000 construction jobs, that a Kenosha Entertainment Facility will provide.

In addition to the materials enclosed with this letter, I am happy to provide you with further information at your request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Laurie Boivin".

Laurie Boivin
Chairwoman